

Fee Schedule Information



A summary of insurance rates and other
payment practices

Presented to the
MONTANA PUBLIC DEFENDER COMMISSION

June, 2007

Issues

- ❑ Provision of appropriate MH Services to our clients in the most effective and efficient manner possible
- ❑ Provision of these services within cost containment parameters

Psycholegal Considerations

- ❑ Fees charged and payment received for psycholegal cases are usually higher than other types of assessments (e.g. self referral, insurance, workman's compensation)
- ❑ Complexity is usually higher in psycholegal cases
- ❑ Liability is usually higher in psycholegal cases
- ❑ Specialized skills and training needed for psycholegal assessments

MT Insurance Company Rates

❑ Aetna	\$95.00/hour
❑ Allegiance	\$149.00/hour
❑ Assurant	\$126.00/hour
❑ BCBS	\$109.00/hour & \$149.00/hour**
❑ EBMS	\$111.00/hour & \$146.00/hour**
❑ Great West	\$147.50/hour
❑ Principal	\$148.75/hour

****Depending on contract with provider—e.g. neuropsychological are paid at a higher rate**

**** Obtained from Explanation Of Benefit (EOB) review**

RVU'S

- ❑ Federal guidelines for Relative Value Units (Medicare rates)
- ❑ Office setting RVU= 2.56
- ❑ Facility setting RVU= 2.54
- ❑ Conversion factor= \$37.177

- ❑ Therefore: $2.56 \times \$37.177 = \textbf{\$ 97.02/hour}$ for an evaluation

- ❑ Obtained from the American Psychological Association Practice Organization payment for Testing Services page (www.apapractice.org)

Washington

- King County OPD (Effective 5/15/06)
 - Diminished capacity or for sentencing evaluations *not to exceed* **\$2,400.00**
 - Competency evaluations **\$800.00**
 - Sexual deviancy evaluations *not to exceed* **\$1,600.00**
 - Sexual predator evaluation *not to exceed* **\$1,200.00**
 - Fetal alcohol, eyewitness reliability *not to exceed* **\$500.00**
 - Miscellaneous *not to exceed* **\$250.00**

** Obtained from King County Office of the Public Defender Expert Services Policy as indicated on the internet:
<http://www.metrokc.gov/dchs/opd/partners/documents/ExpertWitnessPolicy.doc>

California

□ Expert Witness Fees

- Maximum rate of **\$250.00/hour** up to **\$2000.00/day**
- Rate of pay per hour is the current “going rate” (quotes as indicated in the request for payment information sheet 2006)
- Consultant services is **\$250.00/hour**

- Obtained from:

[http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/OESHome.nsf/PDF/Extended%20Forensic%20Evaluation%20Program%20\(EFE\)/\\$file/Part3-AddtlInfo.pdf](http://www.oes.ca.gov/Operational/OESHome.nsf/PDF/Extended%20Forensic%20Evaluation%20Program%20(EFE)/$file/Part3-AddtlInfo.pdf)

Colorado

□ Evaluations and testimony fee is **\$100.00/hour**

- Obtained via email communications with michelle.turner@state.co.us

New Mexico

- ❑ Albuquerque Tribune report of reimbursement rate of \$750.00/evaluation increased to **\$1000.00/evaluation**
- ❑ Obtained from : <http://www.abqtrib.com/news/2006/dec/06/deal-hikes-pay-for-psych-reports/>

Ohio

- ❑ Expenses covered (example child abuse cases) evaluation limited to no more than **\$2,500.00**
- ❑ File review **\$150.00/hour**
- ❑ Waiting to testify **\$100.00/hour**
- ❑ Time testifying Max of **\$175.00/hour**
- ❑ Phone consultation **\$100.00/hour**
- ❑ Travel time max of **\$100.00/hour**

- Obtained from

http://www.ag.state.oh.us/le/prosecuting/cap_fund.asp

Michigan

- Child protective services

- **\$300.00/evaluation** (unless a “unique”—their word– assessment is needed)

- Obtained from: <http://www.mfia.state.mi.us/olmweb/ex/cfp/713-5.pdf>

Other States

- ❑ Other CA counties court appoints and pays
- ❑ WY fees charged by providers
- ❑ ND most performed at the State Hospital
- ❑ Other states
 - no protocol like the one we are developing
 - Court referred evaluations
 - If independent evaluation is ordered, no fee specific information found at this time

-Obtained via web search and email correspondences

Montana Providers

- Current/standard rates charged in private practice
 - Billings area averages:
 - **\$225.00/intake**
 - **\$175.00/hour evaluations**
 - Bozeman
 - **\$150.00/hour**
 - Missoula area averages
 - **\$155.00/hour**
 - Great Falls/Helena area
 - **\$150.00/hour**
 - Miles City area
 - **\$150.00/hour**
 - LCSW services
 - **\$95.00 to \$100.00/hour**
 - Evaluations (e.g. comprehensive, competency, sex offender)
 - **\$1500.00—\$2000.00**
 - **Complicated cases or testimony/trial fees require additional payment**
 - **\$150.00—\$200.00/hour and up plus travel costs**
- Obtained via communication with providers

WMMHC

- Intake (CPT 90801) is \$180.00
- Hourly rate is \$90.00

- Obtained via communication with providers

Commission

- ❑ This information is presented to you for your information and contemplation.
- ❑ We look forward to your input and determination of a fee schedule for the Mental Health Expert: OPD Protocol Governing Referral and Examination.